



Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for facilitating the correct placement of one or more brackets on corresponding one or more teeth according to a predetermined treatment scheme, the method comprising:

obtaining a virtual representation of a three-dimensional teeth arrangement of one or both jaws of the individual with brackets placed on said teeth, the position and orientation of the brackets on said teeth in the virtual representation, being designed so as to achieve a desired treatment outcome;

processing said virtual representation to generate an output data, the output data driving a display to display an exclusively virtual image of at least one tooth with a bracket thereon, the displayed image having three-dimensional qualities indicative of said at least one tooth as viewed from a defined viewpoint;

~~wherein said processing includes displaying said bracket on a labial surface of said at least one tooth or alternatively displaying said bracket on a lingual surface of said tooth and displaying said at least one tooth with said bracket thereon in any of three dimensions; and~~

while placing said one or more brackets directly on corresponding said one or more teeth of said individual, using said displayed exclusively virtual image as a visual comparison guide to assist in proper positioning of said one or more brackets directly on corresponding said one or more teeth of said individual.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the defined viewpoint is a preferred viewpoint, being a viewpoint corresponding to that from which the at least one tooth is viewed when applying a bracket thereon.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the output data drives the display to display a set of images of the at least one tooth from two or more preferred viewpoints.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the output data drives the display to display a set of images of different teeth.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the different displayed teeth are displayed in an order in which the teeth are attended to during bracket placement procedure.
6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said display is a computer monitor.
7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said display is a printer.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the obtaining of a virtual representation comprises transmitting said representation from a remote location.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the obtaining of a virtual representation comprises

receiving data representative of three-dimensional arrangement of teeth of at least one jaw and processing said data to define position and orientation of brackets on the teeth to achieve a desired treatment outcome.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the data representative of a three-dimensional arrangement of teeth of at least one jaw is received from a remote location.

11. (Currently amended) A system for facilitating the correct placement of one or more brackets on corresponding one or more teeth according to a predetermined treatment scheme, the system comprising:

a processor module for obtaining a virtual representation of a three-dimensional teeth arrangement of one or both jaws of the individual with brackets placed on said teeth, the position and orientation of the brackets on said teeth in the virtual representation being designed so as to achieve a desired treatment outcome and for processing said virtual representation to generate an output data, the output data adapted to drive a display to display an exclusively virtual image of at least one tooth with a bracket thereon,

~~wherein said processor module displays said bracket on a labial surface of said at least one tooth or alternatively displays said bracket on a lingual surface of said tooth and displays said at least one tooth with said bracket thereon in any of three dimensions;~~

the displayed image having three-dimensional qualities indicative of said at least one tooth as viewed from a defined viewpoint, such that, while placing said one or more brackets directly on corresponding said one or more teeth of said individual, said displayed exclusively virtual image may

be used as a visual comparison guide to assist in proper positioning of said one or more brackets directly on corresponding said one or more teeth of said individual; and
a display linked to said processor module for displaying said image.

12. (Original) A system according to claim 11, wherein said display is a computer monitor
13. (Original) A system according to claim 11, wherein said display is a printer.
14. (Original) A system according to claim 11, wherein the defined viewpoint is a preferred viewpoint, being a viewpoint corresponding to that from which the orthodontist views the at least one tooth when applying a bracket hereon.
15. (Original) A system according to claim 11, wherein the displayed image includes a set of images of the at least one tooth from two or more preferred viewpoints.
16. (Original) A system according to claim 11, wherein the displayed image includes a set, of images of different teeth.
17. (Original) A system according to claim 16, wherein the different displayed teeth are displayed in an order in which the teeth are attended to during bracket placement procedure.
18. (Currently amended) A system for facilitating the correct placement of one or more brackets

on corresponding one or more teeth according to a predetermined treatment scheme, the system comprising:

a data input module for acquiring and storage of data representative of a three-dimensional teeth arrangement;

a processor and a software running in said processor for processing said data, to obtain a virtual representation of a three-dimensional teeth arrangement of one or both jaws of an individual, said virtual representation including at least one bracket placed on said teeth;

~~wherein said processor displays said at least one bracket on a labial surface of said teeth or alternatively displays said bracket on a lingual surface of said teeth and displays said teeth with at least one bracket thereon in any of three dimensions;~~

an image generation module coupled to or running within said processor for generating an output data adapted to drive a display to display a exclusively virtual image of at least one tooth with a bracket thereon, the displayed image having three-dimensional qualities indicative of said at least one tooth as used from a defined viewpoint, such that, while placing said one or more brackets directly on corresponding said one or more teeth of said individual, said displayed exclusively virtual image may be used as a visual comparison guide to assist in proper positioning of said one or more brackets directly on corresponding said one or more teeth of said individual; and

a display linked said image generating module for displaying said image.

19. (Original) A system according to claim 18, comprising: database of virtual brackets from which said software can import brackets for combining with the teeth.

20. (Currently amended) A method for facilitating the correct placement of one or more real brackets on corresponding one or more teeth according to a predetermined treatment scheme, the method comprising:

selecting one or more virtual brackets corresponding to the one or more real brackets from a virtual bracket catalogue containing a plurality of virtual brackets

obtaining a virtual representation of a three-dimensional teeth arrangement of one or both jaws of the individual with virtual brackets placed on said teeth, the position and orientation of the virtual brackets on said teeth in the virtual representation, being designed so as to achieve a desired treatment outcome;

processing said virtual representation to generate an output data, the output data driving a display to display an exclusively virtual image of at least one tooth with a virtual bracket thereon, the displayed exclusively virtual image having three-dimensional qualities indicative of said at least one tooth as viewed from a defined viewpoint;

~~wherein said processing includes displaying said bracket on a labial surface of said at least one tooth and displaying said bracket on a lingual surface of said tooth or alternatively displaying said at least one tooth with said bracket thereon in any of three dimensions;~~

while placing the one or more real brackets directly on corresponding one or more teeth of said individual, using said displayed exclusively virtual image as a visual comparison guide to assist in proper positioning of the one or more real brackets directly on corresponding said one or more teeth of said individual.